

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed April 15, 2008.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to their underlying subject matter. Thus, claims 3-7 are currently pending in this application. Support for the claim amendments can be readily found variously throughout the specification and the original claims.

In view of these amendments, Applicant believes that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kanji et al. (Japan Patent Publication No. 2002-203657). This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 1.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103


Claims 2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kanji et al. (Japan Patent Publication No. 2002-203657) in view of Kelly. This rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 2 and 8.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

Dated: June 13, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By:  _____

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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-4422 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.